

# Banbury Care

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Double sword: to get empty homes back into use and to claw back £60,000 lost in Government tax grants

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COUNCIL tax discounts in North Oxfordshire are to be scaled back in a bid to get hundreds of empty homes back into use.

Cherwell District Council is set to join other county authorities in taking on new powers to remove or cut discounts.

It is hoped the move will also claw back £60,000 needed to make up a cut in Government cash support.

The change will cut the 100 per cent sixmonth discount on empty and unfurnished

**By Oliver Evans** 

Uninhabitable homes would also get a 50 per cent reduction for 12 months instead of 100 per cent, saving £4,625. There were 343 exemptions this year.

Yet the council has said it will not take on a 150 per cent "premium" for homes empty longer than two years.

Lead member for financial management Ken Atack said of empty homes: "It is wasteful in a society where we have got people without accommodation.

"We are right to push ahead and encourage people to bring homes back into

But a premium would be "over-zealous"

From April 1, councils will have to make their own arrangements for council tax benefit payments, but with ten per cent less Government cash. Cherwell said the £60,867 raised by changing exemptions would cover this.

It would have the power to exclude some people from the benefit, but this would not happen this year. Next year's policy has not been set.

Liberal Democrat group leader Tim Emptage said: "If that means people who have a second home have to pay a bit more, then so be it. I think that is entirely fair."

The district has long been plagued by a lack of affordable homes and some 1,800 people are on its waiting list.

But it last year revealed there were 326 empty homes in Banbury. Campaign group Homes From Empty Homes put this at 1,508

Labour group leader Patrick Cartledge was not available for comment.

George Philip, a partner at Strutt & Parker estate agents in Banbury, said: "It is just another way of getting more tax in from the

"Of course it will encourage people to get homes back on the market to be let as quickly as possible and maybe make them a bit better organised.'

Yet landlords may put off home improvements to get properties on the market, he said.

The council will be asked to approve the changes on Monday night.



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ALL WINDOWS MANUFACTURED IN BANBURY

homes to 25 per cent, netting an estimated **Panasonic** £52,457 Since April, some 14,241 exemptions have been granted for such properties, though these are often for short periods. FREE YOUR MOBILE MOMENTS The council also wants to axe the ten per WITH THE SWIPE OF A HAND cent discount on second homes, expected to save £3,785. Some 356 exemptions were Alice Cooper to headline at Cropredy festival hellraiser Alice Cooper. But the shock-rocker is set to headline Free TX-L42ET5 Delivery Free

A POPULAR folk festival isn't the sort of place you would expect to see famous

the opening day of Fairport's Cropredy Convention later this year.

It is expected to be Cooper's only UK public appearance during the year. **Fairport's Cropredy Convention takes** 

place from Thursday, August 8, to Saturday, August 10.

Tickets will go on sale on February 1 from Fairport's online box office at fairportconvention.com

Cropredy tickets are £105 for all three days, £95 for Friday and Saturday, and £70 for Saturday only.

The full festival line-up will be announced on February 1.

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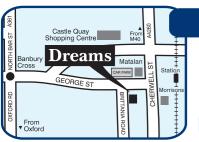






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# Ofsted inspection report tells school that it 'needs to improve'

ST JOSEPH'S Primary School, in Fiennes Road, Banbury, is the latest county school to be told it needs to improve.

The school was given the judgement in a recent Ofsted inspection.

While behaviour and safety of pupils were deemed "good", all other areas were given the "requires improvement" rating In the report, it said pupils' progress

had varied widely in recent years, and had been slowed by frequent staff

changes, while teaching was "good" or

The school was told the two acting deputy headteachers were leading the school effectively, supported by a "resilient and positive staff". The school has 203 pupils.

 Hardwick and Arden Pre-school has been given a "good" Ofsted rating.
The pre-school, based at Hardwick

Community Centre, Banbury, has 46 children, aged three to five.

Inspectors said all children had made good progress and achieved well.

A residential special school, which provides an education for boys with autism, Asperger's syndrome and other learning difficulties, has been given an "outstanding" rating for its boarding

Swalcliffe Park School, Swalcliffe, provides education and care for up to 57 boys, aged from 11 to 19, 33 of whom live at school during term-time.

Ofsted inspector Clare Davies said children made excellent progress in all aspects of development, grew in confidence and attained skills in independence, to help prepare them for life after school.

She said the residential provision was "extremely well-organised and managed" and described the school as ambitious, keen to embrace new initiatives and take action for the benefit of the youngsters in

# **Inbrief**

# Jobs lost at camera shops

■ STAFF at all five Jessops photography stores in Oxfordshire – including the branch at Castle Quay, Banbury – are to lose their jobs following the company's collapse. The high street firm went into administration last Thursday and the following day administrators. PricewaterhouseCoopers, announced the decision to close every store in the UK. Jessops would not say how many members of staff it had in Oxfordshire.

# Home raided

■ A BURGLAR climbed through a broken window to steal cash and a laptop from a home in Hamilton Close, Banbury. The raid happened overnight between Wednesday and Thursday of last week. Call police on 101 with any information.

# Show entries

■ ENTRIES are being sought for an It's a Knockout-style contest at this year's Banbury & District Show. Entries cost £136 for each team of eight at the Sunday June 9 show, to be held in Spiceball Park. Proceeds will go to the Rotary Club of Banbury. For tickets call Andrew Fairbairn 07711 142 887 or email andrew@ whitecommercial.co.uk

# Tragic parents plan event on birthday date of son, Finnley

# Fundraising day to be held in baby's memory



Gemma and Luke Froude, who are planning to mark their late baby's birthday with a fundraising event in Banbury

# third fundraising day to mark what would have been their son's third birthday.

Gemma and Luke Froude will host the fun day on February 2, to raise funds in the memory of their baby, Finnley, who died aged just 18 weeks.

The tiny tot was born was born 12 weeks premature at the neonatal intensive care unit at Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital in February 2010. He weighed just 1lb 4oz - less than a bag of

The youngster went on to weigh in at 7lb 14oz, and Mr and Mrs Froude were hoping they would soon be able to take him home. But, in June 2010, he suffered complications with an infection in his heart and was not strong enough to survive.

Soon after Finnley was born, the couple started fundraising for SSNAP, the charity which supports the special care baby unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital. Since then they have raised more than £36,000.

The pair have held two previous Finnley's Days to mark his first and second birthdays,

# By Banbury reporter

car boot sales, a film evening, and Mr Froude, 32, completed an abseil at the hospital and also runs a tuck shop at his

work – Bibby, in Banbury. Mrs Froude, 31, a children's nursery manager, said: "This will be the third Finnley's Day and will mark what would have been Finnley's third birthday.

"We enjoy fundraising while at the same time raising awareness of the Neonatal Unit at the JR hospital.

"We also raise money in Finnley's memory. It is important because it keeps his memory alive and makes people aware of how amazing he was, and how amazing the unit, medical staff and SSNAP

Mr and Mrs Froude, of Appleby Close, Banbury, will stage the third annual Finnley Day at Banbury Town Hall, in Bridge Street, from 9am to 5pm.

It will include a prize draw, raffle, tombola, bouncy castle, stalls, face painting and this year there will be a children's colouring competition.

### event is a success, they need donations of bottles, bric a brac, children's books and unwanted gifts for the tombola stall. People can donate cash online.

For every £1 donated, a ticket will be entered into the prize draw. To enter view sponsorme.co.uk/bibbylukefroude/finnleys-day-3.aspx

To donate items email. finnleyfroude@hotmail.co.uk or call 07717 710262 or 07795 234292.

Banbury's mayor, Tony Ilott, will

choose the winner on the day.

But in order to ensure the

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# Staffing firm plans move to Banbury A DIVISION of controversial

staffing firm G4S is moving its HQ to Banbury Up to 120 staff from its

integrated services arm will uproot from their current base at Broadway in Worcestershire, to a new office at Banbury Business Park to administer staff on contracts including transport, catering and cleaning. A further 20 workers will

come from the company's care and justice services and regional procurement divisions.

Bosses say some jobs may be created if some staff decide against making the

move. Bob Taylor, managing director of G4S Integrated Services, said: "As several other G4S businesses will be moving, it makes sense for us to be consolidating our office accommodation.

"The new premises will offer lots of advantages for our staff, with improved facilities and better transport links to London."

The move is expected to be completed by May. G4S hit the headlines in the summer when it was criticised for failing to adequately supply more than 10,000 security staff for the London 2012 Olympics.





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BANBURY CAKE, Thursday, January 17, 2013

# **InBRIEF**

# Parishes in planning plea

■ VIEWS are being sought on two village bids to take on new powers to influence planning applications. Adderbury and Hook Norton parish councils want to draw up neighbourhood development plans, setting out valued local assets. These would have to be considered by Cherwell District Council when it considers planning applications. The parish councils have applied to Cherwell to prepare the development plans, set up by the Government. Views are sought via planning.policy@cherwelldc.gov.uk or cherwell.gov.uk/ neighbourhoodplanning

# Fitness offer

■ SEATED keep fit classes, for people with mobility problems, are set to be launched in Banbury. People can drop in to try seated keep fit or boccia, a paralympic sport similar to seated bowls, at Horsefair Surgery, Southbar House, in Banbury, from now until February 21. The event takes place on Thursdays, between 12.45pm to 1.30pm for seated fitness and 1.30pm to 2.15pm for boccia. Details: phone 01295 221715 or email hazel.walsh@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

# PC's surgery

■ RESIDENTS can meet a member of their local police team tomorrow to discuss concerns. PC Paul Smith will be at St Mary's Church Of England Primary School, Southam Road, Banbury, from 3pm to 4pm.

# Plan returns

■ A DEVELOPER has moved to get final permission for a controversial scheme for 82 homes in Bodicote. Banner Homes has put in detailed plans for homes north west of Cotefield Farm to Chiltern District Council. The council threw out a previous application but this was overturned on appeal last year. The firm now needs further permission for details, such as layout and design. Granting the appeal, The Planning Inspectorate said there was "a clear justification" for homes as Chiltern was not hitting its house-building targets.

# Hospitals launch new system to check patients for dementia

HOSPITALS across Oxfordshire are failing to collect data on the number of people being screened for dementia.

Their target is to check at least 90 per cent of emergency patients, aged 75 and over, for the condition within 72 hours of their admission to hospital.

But at a meeting of the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust board, it was revealed that staff do not know if

the target is being met.

It was introduced by the Department of Health under its Commissioning for Quality and Innovation system.

The trust now plans to put in place a new records system so it can monitor the target by the end of the 2013/14 financial year.

This will involve making sure electronic records are kept, introducing forms that require checks are completed, and improving training.

At the board meeting, Professor Sir John Bell said it was "really central" that the checks were put in place.
He said: "Everything that follows after

you have seen a patient will be driven by whether a patient has dementia or

"We need to have a system that

screens everyone when they are 75 vears or over.

The target is part of a framework which provides the trust with financial incentives for achieving certain standards.

Out of 20 targets rated, using a traffic-light scoring system, dementia screening was red, five other targets were amber and the rest were green.

# Record numbers sign up early for the Town and Gown race

# Family limbers up for a city fundraising run

A RECORD number of people have signed up to take part in the Oxford Town and Gown run in the first week of registration

Already more than 250 people have registered to run the 10km race, far exceeding the usual number who sign up early.

The event, which raises money for the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign, is in its 32nd year, and will take place on Sunday, May 12, starting and finishing in Parks Road, Oxford.

The charity's events manager, Emma Jones-Parry, said: "It's really exciting to have record numbers this

"Usually they tend to drip feed,

affected to do simple tasks.

muscle-wasting conditions.

WHAT IS MUSCULAR

DYSTROPHY AND THE

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

CAMPAIGN?

MORE than 70,000 people in the UK have muscular

weaken over time, making it more difficult for those

As well as legs and arms, muscular dystrophy can

The Muscular Dystrophy Campaign funds research

The charity also awards grants towards the cost of

specialist equipment, such as powered wheelchairs,

dystrophy or a related neuromuscular condition.

The condition causes muscles to waste and

There are currently no treatments or cures.

information, advice and support for those with

and provides specialist education for healthcare

affect the heart and respiratory muscles.

to find treatments and cures and provides

# By Fran Bardsley

but this year people seem ready to go. I think many tend to sign up and get enthused about it because of the history of it and also the route because it's a good race to try to get a personal best time as it's quite flat."

Last year, more than 3,000 runners tackled the course, raising £100,000 for the cause.

Ethiopian runner Edao Weliy was the first to run the course in under 30

This year organisers hope to raise a record-breaking £110,000.

For the first time, it is planned to make the race more of a family fun

day, with events planned in University Parks while runners pound the streets.

One family which will be taking part in a big way is Angela Dickson, her husband Paul, his sister Kelly Sambrook and Angela's friend, Kirsten Turner.

They are running because the Dicksons nine-vear-old son. John, has Duchenne muscular dystrophy. He is currently taking part in a clinical trial at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, into a possible treatment for the disease

Mrs Dickson, 36, who lives in Bledington, near Chipping Norton, said: "We have all done the Town and Gown before at different points apart from Kelly who

will be doing it for the first time. This will be the first time we've all run it together.

"It's brilliant because it's nice and flat and goes through the centre of



Town and gown launch. Angela Dickson, who is preparing to take part in the Oxford Town and Gown race, is pictured with her son, John

"It's also good to know that everyone there is doing a little bit to help our son and every other little boy with the same condition."

Since Mr and Mrs Dickson first started fundraising for the Muscular

Warning over firm's no-win, no-fee council tax offer

Dystrophy Campaign in 2006, they have raised around £10,000 for the

For more details, and how to enter the event, visit townandgown 10k.com

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### CHERWELL District Council has urged residents not to The council said that residents could appeal to the

take up a company's offer to seek a cut in their council tax bill. The authority said some people had received letters from Manchester law firm Randall & Vickers offering to challenge council tax bands on a no-win-no fee basis. Successful challenges would see the firm get a quarter of refunded cash, plus VAT, the council said.

Valuation Office Agency directly. Lead member for finance Ken Atack said: "A number

of concerned residents have contacted us, having been approached by this company." He said: "There is absolutely no need to have to go

through a third party to check this information."

banburycake.co.uk/news BANBURY CAKE, Thursday, January 17, 2013 5

# Charity watchdog to meet RSPCA

THE UK's charity watchdog has said it will meet the RSPCA to discuss its "approach" to prosecutions after the animal welfare group took a Chipping Norton hunt to court.

The Charity Commission will meet the charity over concerns about its successful £326,000 prosecution of the Heythrop Hunt.

Peers and MPs were among those who raised concerns with the commission.

Commission spokesman Polly Kettenacker said: "We can confirm commission staff members will be meeting the charity this week.

"The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the charity's approach to prosecutions."

She said the watchdog was not investigating the charity and did not have regulatory concerns.

The hunt, along with members Julian Barnfield, 49, and Richard Sumner, 68, each admitted four counts of unlawful hunting with dogs at Oxford Magistrates' Court last month.



# On the path to the Yellow Brick Road

THESE amateur actors are off to see the wizard in a new production of a funky take on *The Wonderful Wizard Of* 

Odyssey Theatrical Productions is to hold *The Wiz* – a soul-music version of the classic fairytale – at Banbury Academy.

Taking on the role of Dorothy is Bodicote dance instructor Rosey Delarue, 19.

She said: "It is fun. It is a role that every girl wants to play."

The non-profit making company was formed in 2011 to give young people and adults a chance to take to the

stage. She said: "They give you so much time. It has give me a lot of confidence."

The show will be held at Wykham
Theatre at the academy, formerly
Banbury School, on Friday and
Saturday night and a Saturday matinee.
See: ticketsource.co.uk/event/29845

# **Banbury Cake**

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Email letters to letters@banburycake.co.uk

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■ Staff thanked as more hospital beds are freed up

# Bedblockers: Praise as winter crisis hits

STAFF in Oxfordshire hospitals have been praised for reducing the number of bedblockers during the busiest period of the year.

Bedblockers are patients who are fit enough to be discharged but are stuck in hospital because the next phase of their care is not ready.

Earlier this month, all 1,200 main hospital beds across the county were full.

Some non-emergency operations were also cancelled, with Oxfordshire's NHS services under severe strain from winter health problems such as respiratory illnesses, flu and pneumonia.

Despite the "unprecedented" number of patients they had to deal with, the county's health workers have been thanked for the way they have worked together and reduced bedblockers.

edblockers. In March last year, the By Joe Nimmo and Andrew Ffrench

month's average bedblocking figure for the county was 191.

This was reduced to 115 by July and the average figure for last month was 100, although this total still needs to be confirmed by the Department of Health.

Trust bosses now aim to reduce the average figure to 76 by the end of March, but due to current high demand for beds they fear they could miss their target.

Paul Brennan, the trust's director of clinical services, said at the trust board meeting that he was not certain the target for bedblocking – known as delayed transfers of care – would be met.

He said: "We have made positive steps. But can I positively say by March that it will be 76? Not with the level of

activity coming through the

"Despite a difficult period over the last couple of months, staff from across Oxfordshire's health and social care organisations have made a positive contribution to the reduction of delayed transfers of

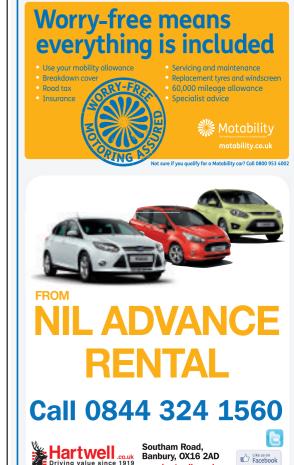
"Thanks to the collaborative work of staff in Oxfordshire's acute hospitals, in community hospitals and social care teams, we have been able to reduce the number of patients who are waiting to leave either an acute or community hospital bed for the next stage of their care."

In September 2011, Dr Stephen Richards, chief clinical officer at Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, said he was tackling the county's bedblocking crisis head-on. It was announced a new Acceptable Care for Everyone board would for the first time oversee a pooled budget, and top clinicians looked at how to simplify patients' journeys between health bodies.

Following the latest figures, Dr Richards said: "I am encouraged by the drop in the number of patients staying too long in hospitals across Oxfordshire. It is a testament to the whole system working together.

"Everyone from GPs to South Central Ambulance Trust teams, to staff from across health and social care services, have all played their part and worked more closely and efficiently."

Oxford Health Foundation NHS Trust, which runs community hospitals, has a reablement team to ensure people who leave hospital are helped back to health and independent living.



### banburycake.co.uk/news

# **Inbrief**

# Police car in accident

■ A POLICE car was involved in a crash in Deddington while responding to an emergency on Monday. It collided with a red Nissan at around 2pm at a crossroads in the village. Both police officers were uninjured but the male driver in the Nissan was taken to the Horton Hospital, Banbury, as a precaution. Police were unable to say what emergency the police car was responding to.

# Charity chief

youth homeless charity BYHP has said she is "delighted" to take on the post. Anna Day has replaced Clare Norton, who has left to become chief executive officer at Peter Bedford Housing Association, London. Miss Day, previously chief executive of Oxfordshire Children and Voluntary Youth Services, Oxford, said: "I am delighted to join BYHP at a critical juncture in the organisation's future, as we face record numbers of young people in crisis requiring our support. I look forward to being able to aid the charity in taking its brilliant work to new heights."

# ■ Children's classic tops the lending league

# Revealed, most borrowed book

**Story: Jamie Brooks** 

IT may be nearly 50 years old, but a classic children's picture book is the most borrowed library item in Oxfordshire this vear.

Where the Wild Things Are was loaned out more this year than contemporary children's fiction like Harry Potter and all adult

Children's literature dominated the list of the five most frequently borrowed items in the year up to last November.

The statistics show that in the gadget-driven age children are still drawn to libraries

The five most issued items - from November 26, 2011, to November 25, 2012 - were:

 Maurice Sendak, Where The Wild Things Are, 977

• Lee Child, The Affair, 858

Iulia Donaldson.

Gruffalo, 833. ● P. D. James, Death comes to Pemberley, 834. Martin Handford,

Where's Wally? The Fantastic Journey, 823

The top book, published in 1963 was both written and illustrated by Maurice Sendak. It has sold over 19 million copies worldwide.

It was adapted into a feature film in 2009.

Last year £172,178.26 was collected in fines in Oxfordshire, which compares to £189,703.35 the vear before.

Oxfordshire County Council spokesman Martin Crabtree said: "The library service is largely free if you stick to the rules and

offers access to an almost unrivalled stock of books. films, newspapers, magazines. We actually try to make it as easy as possible

to avoid generating fines.' A total of £49,327.74 was outstanding as of November 27, for items not returned in the previous six years.

This compares to £83,535.78 outstanding for returned items in the six years before that.

Mr Crabtree added: "Fines are there to encourage people to return their books on time or renew them, they are not intended as a way of making money.

"People can now receive alerts and renew their books online when they are close to being due back. This is one reason. why the amount of fines owed has reduced.

"The amount collected outweighs the amount owed, so we are not losing money in that sense.

"Although we are actively looking at improving the rate at which people pay what they owe.

Borrowers who currently had accounts of £10 and over and were suspended from using the service totalled 9,564.

The top 10 amounts owed ranged between £134.80 and £233.

Other information revealed that as of November 27, there were 1,545 items which were lost. But lost items are not necessarily items which have not been returned they are items which can't be found from routine shelf checks



Rosie Hitchcox shows off some of the props from the Chipping Norton pantomime Cinderella that were put up for auction

# Panto props go under the hammer

BIDDERS got a bit of panto magic when they snapped up items used in a recent production of Cinderella.

On Sunday, Chipping Norton Theatre auctioned props and costumes from their recent production of the fairytale classic.

Lots that went under the hammer included a cucumber puppet, a toy dog and Cinderella's crystal gondola.

Witney MP and Prime Minister David Cameron and presenter Amanda Holden were among those who saw the Spring Street theatre's show.

Showing off some of the outfits was Rosie Hitchcox, 13, who said: "It was good and we sold quite a lot of stuff.

"It is a bit early to tell how much we raised but we hope it will be about £1,000 or so."

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# Departs 9 February 2013

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## Departs 9 March 2013

See the sites made famous by the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Our exclusive break takes you to the heart of our nation's capital, where we view the incredible array of buildings that make up the Olympic Village. Along the way our specially qualified Blue Badge Guide will share their in-depth knowledge of the site following the hive of activity during the summer.

## Price includes

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- Trip on the Emirate Air Line Cable Car
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# www.diamondhols.co.uk ((\*) 0844 544 6675 ox **⊕ABTA**

# Drugs man faces threat of prison A MAN aged 38 has been He also confessed to possession of 38.8gm of

given a suspended sentence for possession of cocaine and cannabis.

Iqbal Zahir, of West Street, Banbury, was handed a three-month suspended sentence on Friday at Oxford Crown Court.

The chef admitted possession of ten grams of cannabis, a Class-B drug, which was found in his wallet on April 27, 2011.

extremely low purity cocaine, which is a Class-A drug. It was hidden in the boot of his car.

He was given a onemonth suspended sentence for the cannabis offence and a three-month sentence for having the cocaine - to run concurrently.

He was also given a supervision order for 12 months

# New project in plea for help

A NEW neighbourhood watch-style project - to help retúrn dementia sufferers to their homes needs volunteers

The Neighbourhood Return scheme will help carers find patients who



**Roger Stammers** 

go missing, by creating a network of Good Samaritans to help with a search.

The project, believed to be first of its kind, was developed in Oxfordshire by Neighbourhood Watch, health and police bosses thanks to a £191,000 National Lottery grant.

Now after a six-week trial period, organisers say it is time for the project to go live. They are calling on people from every corner of the county to sign up.

The system uses a database on which carers can register a person's details, location, appearance and a photo.

If someone is found to have gone missing, their information can instantly be texted to all the volunteers with a mile of their last location, giving them the option to take

part in a search. It was devised with the help of local man Roger Stammers, whose wife, Isobel, began to wander off after the onset of

Alzheimer's in 2004. He said: "I wish this scheme had existed when my wife was wandering. She went missing on a number of occasions. It

worried me so much. "Trying to find her on my own was really difficult and stressful."

Deborah Ginns, the Neighbourhood Watch manager who runs the project, said all volunteers needed was a mobile phone.

She said: "We are appealing to everyone everywhere in Oxfordshire to sign up, no matter how little time they think they may have.

We know that everyone is very busy, but the commitment is very small. You may never get a call, but if you do and you are free you might just help to save someone's life."

See: ourturn.org.uk, or call Neighbourhood Watch on 0116 228 3118

Organised & operated by Diamond Holidays of Market Harborough ABTA W0552.
Prices are per person & based on two people sharing. Single supplements may apply
Departure points are subject to availability and minimum numbers being achieved.

anburycake.co.uk/news BANBURY CAKE, Thursday, January 17, 2013

# ■ Model railway enthusiasts stage club open day to attract new members

# Chuffed at show response





ONE model railway enthusiast was coupling up his train carriage ready for a run on Sunday.

Banbury and District Model Railway Club held its first open Sunday of 2013, launching a recruitment drive for more members.

More than 20 people attended

Village on Southam Road, Banbury. Showing his model train – an Ogauge London and North Eastern

Railway tank engine - was Martyn

Lester, 69, from Banbury.

The retired civil servant said:
"We were looking to recruit more members and we were pleased

with the positive response.

"We even had somebody turn up

who had only lived in Banbury for three days, so we were happy with

"The train I was showing was made by my father when he was about 80. He too was a keen model railway enthusiast."

For more information contact club secretary Keith Bristow on 01295-252931 or visit bdmrc.co.uk

# 278 are arrested in festive campaign

A BANBURY man has been charged with recording the highest drink-drive reading during a festive clampdown by police.

Thames Valley Police arrested 278 drivers in December for drink-driving compared to 299 in the same month in 2011.

About six per cent of drivers tested were at least three times over the limit.

A total of 74 were arrested in Oxfordshire – including 19 in Cherwell.

Marcin Leja, of Rye Close, Banbury, was due to appear at Banbury Magistrates' Court yesterday, accused of having 168mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, above the legal limit of 35mg.

The 33-year-old was arrested on December 12 at 11.30pm.

A/Supt Henry Parsons, head of Road Policing for Thames Valley and Hampshire, said: "It's really encouraging that we have seen a decrease in the number of people arrested for drink driving this year. However it is still disappointing to see that there are still people who are prepared to take that risk. Our message is that if you drink and drive, we will arrest you and put you before the courts."

# Man is sent to prison for axe-handle attack

A BANBURY thug who hit a man in the face with an axe handle has started a seven-year prison sentence.

Barrie Potts, 27, struck Paul Williams, then 44, twice with the wooden handle of a pickaxe while his victim sat on his bed in his Gatteridge Street flat.

Potts, of Marlborough Road, Banbury, was convicted of causing grievous bodily harm with intent by a jury after a two-day trial at Oxford Crown Court.

He had denied the August 2 crime at an earlier hearing in October.

Ahead of the sentencing, Kenneth Green, defending,

said to the judge: "He is still 27. I'd like to think there is still some future for Barrie Potts.

"I would ask you to pass a sentence that does not really crush him. At 27 he still has a lot of life left to look forward to."

Potts had previous convictions for two common assaults, the court

heard. And Judge Patrick Eccles, sentencing, said to him: "You inflicted two blows to Mr Williams' face with a wooden pickaxe handle.

"He was in his own home at the time. He was sitting on his bed. He was defenceless and he had no reason

to expect any attack at all, let alone one of this severity."

He said Potts' victim still suffered physical and psychological difficulties from the

injuries.

He added: "There was no explanation for what happened.
There is no remorse.

"I accept it was not a planned offence. It was an explosion of

anger for some reason."

Potts was given a six-and-a-halfyear jail term for the attack and six months for breaching a suspended sentence order.

Speaking after the hearing, prosecutor Jonathan Stone said Potts had struck Mr Williams while they were playing a drinking game.

# Plea for street collection volunteers

Jailed: Barrie Potts

MENTAL health charity Oxfordshire Mind is looking for volunteers to help with street collections.

Collection days are held in towns across the county throughout the year.

The charity is also looking for donations for tombolas and raffles, and home-made cakes. To find out more contact Nicky Clargo at nicky.clargo@oxfordshire-mind.org.uk or telephone 01865 263733.

# Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director
Trevor Skidmore feels
that it's all about service.
Our product is simple.
If your double glazing is
misted up we can replace
the glass at a fraction
of the cost of a new
window, in any type of
frame, and with a new
5 year guarantee. But
it's not just about saving
people money, although

that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Oxford, Banbury & Abingdon areas and Trevor is finding that his approach is a major facto in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show

how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Trevor a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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SPONTANEOUS Upfront Witney lady, 37, 5'6", blue-eyes, long-haiszie 10-12, part-time accountant, enjoys evenings out, cinema, walks, shopping, looking for a traditional gent, 35+. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 111986

GOOD COMPANIONSHIP Happy-go-lucky Devizes female, 40, good sense of humour, looking for a reli able, caring man, for a long term relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136646 or send a text to 80360

TAKE ME OFF THE SHELF Straight-

TAKE ME OFF THE SHELF Straight-forward and charming Devizes woman, 42,5°8", blonde, search-ing for a nice guy, with an interest-ing and romantic side, to share friendship and something special. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136660 LONG LASTING HAPPINESS Thoughtful Oxford female, 42,5°.

Thoughtful Oxford female, 42, 5', medium-build, fair-hair, blue-eye smoker, likes swimming, holidays

pubs and meals out, seeks a genu-ine male. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 122427

SPARKS FLYING Fun, curvy, green-eyed Wiltshire brunette, 45, looking for genuine, loving guy, to share some caring times and future happiness. Call 0905 005 2359

and enter box number 852093 or send a text to 80360

FOR HAPPINESS Upbeat Swindon

FOR HAPPINESS Upbeat Swindon female, 45, '4", would like to meet a male, to go on dates, share company and hopefully form a relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 127393 or send a text to 80360

OF A GENUINE DESCRIPTION
Laid-back Swindon female, 46
looking for my Mr Right, to she
and enjoy life with. Call 0905
005 2359 and enter box numl

126129 or send a text to 80360

126.129 or send a text to 80360
SMOOTH MOVE Slim, blue-eyed
Trowbridge female, 48, 5'2'', GSOH,
easy to get on with, enjoys rights
out, walks and more, searching for
an honest, active, interesting man.
Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box
number 109958 or send a text
to 80360
BRING THE SDADMER ACK Slim

BRING THE SPARKLE BACK Slim,

BIRING THE SPARKLE BACK Slim, active Chipping Norton female, 50, brown hair, blue eyes, GSOH, enjoys swimming, dog walking and keeping fit, seeking an honest, caring and trustworthy male, for dates and maybe more. Call 0905 05 2359 and enter box number 133543 or send a text to 80360

AS SIMPLE AS THAT Slim, blonde,

AS SIMPLE AS ITAIL Stim, blonde, divorced female, 50, likes socialising, cinema, weekend away, seeking a man, 45-50, for friendship first, leading to more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 134472

START LIVING AGAIN Friendly, fun

START LIVING AGAIN Friendly, fun Oxfordshire divorced mum, 51, 5'7", grown up children, looking for love again and someone to share life with. Is the right man out there for me? Call 0905 005 2359

and enter box number 798804

SEARCHING FOR YOU Down to earth, Mauritius-born Devizes fe male, 51, looking for someone f a serious relationship. Call 090 005 2359 and enter box numbe

120023 or send a text to 80360

BETTER WITH 2 Easygoing Chip-ping Norton female, 52, enjoys life to the full, swimming, walking

my dog, seeking a kind, caring male, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

XA VA VOOM Positive, lovable and kind-hearted woman, ##Age#, would like to meet a vivacious, self-assured male, for love and an honest future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

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> I'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT Sincere Swindon woman, 54, GSOH, fur personality, loves nights out socialising and music, seeks a friendly bloke, to share lots of good times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

loving relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box num

118921 or send a text to 80360

104377 or send a text to 80360 SIMPLE TASTES Open, honest

Bampton female, 55, enjoys coun-try walks, gardening, swimming, theatre, travelling, would like to meet that special man, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136810 or send a text to 80360

THAT SPECIAL PERSON Honest bubbly female, 55, kind, loving, seeks 6ft+ male, for romance, companionship & lots more. Bicester. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110670

SHALL WE DANCE? Blonde, blueeyed Swindon girl, 56, friendly nature, well-travelled and loyal, lover of life, searching for an ac tive, educated man, who appreciates, food, wine and life in general Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box

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RECIPE FOR LOVE Kind hearted sociable Oxford lady, 57, active caring, GSOH, enjoys rock concerts, seaside, animals and driving searching for a warm, loving and funny gent, for company, sharing and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130132 or send a text to 80360

GIVE ME A CALL SOMETIME Separated, caring Devizes female, 57, genuine, loving, GSOH, likes reading, cooking, meals and cosy nights in, seeking a tall man, for 0905 005 2359 and enter box er 132887 or send a text to 80360

**HEADLINE NEWS** Sincere, reliable Wiltshire lady, 57, likes dogs, travelling and good conversations, seeking an honest, reliable male for company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 124692 or send a text to 80360

MEANINGFUL TIMES Active, outgo-ing Trowbridge female, 57, loves cinema, seaside, travelling and animals, would like to meet a man for company leading to a possible relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117215

FIRENDS FIRST Intelligent, attrac tive Wiltshire female, 57, widow, brunette, 5'2", likes radio 4, reading, travel, art galleries and gym, new to area and seeking a similar guy, GSOH, for company and more Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box r 124892 or send a text

CLOSE TO HAPPINESS Cuddly, young looking 58yr old Salisbury woman, likes travel, reading crime thrillers, all kinds of music, looking for a rugged man to make me smile & share fun times together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 119145

LIFE STARTS HERE Bubbly, attractive Witney female, 59, slim build, 5'5, sociable, enjoys nights out, conversation, days away and cosy nights in, seeking a funny and intelligent male, for company and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 134011

THE LONG TERM Separated, easygoing Oxon female, 60, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100451

**SEEKING THE RIGHT MAN Sepa** rated, attractive Witney female, 60, 5'2", curvy, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128289 or send a text to 80360

to 80360
LOVE IS FOR SHARING Easygoing, sincere Trowbridge lady, 60, med build, 5'6", CSOH, M/S, enjoys good social life, darts, music, walking & reading, searching for that special guy, N/S and caring for dates & more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 116161

GENUINE AND CARING Oxfordshire widow, 61, 5'6", slender build, sociable, caring and well-travelled, searching for a genuine, profes-sional guy, non-smoker, for friendsional guy, non-smoker, for friend-ship, maybe lasting love. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

KNOW WHAT MATTERS Upbeat, cultured, sophisticated Banbury lady, 62, own house and car, likes swimming and wondering about the countryside, would like to meet an up-lifting man, to fill in the gaps. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 123403 or send a text to 80360

SOCIABLE SORT Tall, blonde Witt-shire girl, 62, enjoys cars, walks, gardening and more, searching for a sociable man, with an active lifestyle, for a loving and lasting relationship. Call 0995 005 2359 and enter box number 452750

LISTEN TO YOUR HEART Happy go lucky Warminster female, 62, looking for a nice kind and reliable man to share good times together and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 120544

FRIENDSHIP, MAYBE MORE...

Sociable, active Witney woman, 63, GSOH, widow, attractive, likes meeting people, theatre, drinks, meals out and walking, seeking a similar man, caring and genuine, for friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 127066

woman looking to meet a loving, dark haired, slim man. I'm 64yrs old, 57", slim and fit, love being outside, walking and gardening. Martborough/Witshire Call 090 005 2359 and enter box number 112241 or send a text to 80360

HONEST RELATIONSHIP Non-HONEST RELATIONSHIP NOTI-smoking Bradford lady, 65, 5'5", slim-build, blue-eyes with a posi-tive outlook, enjoy countryside, dancing, music, theatre, seeking a gent, 63-68, to enjoy similar interest. Call 0905 005 2359 and x number 128404 or send a text to 80360

THE BETTER THINGS IN LIFE THE BETTER THINGS IN LIFE
Divorced Swindon female, 65, 5'5",
works part-time, likes walking,
travelling and cooking, would like
to meet a nice sociable gent, with
a good lifestyle, to enjoy life with.
Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114628

SO HAPPY TOGETHER Loving, sincere and attractive lady, 66, cuddly, would like to meet a gent who likes country walks, meals out, social drinks and places of interest for companionship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114914

ADVENTURE AHEAD Warm, friendly ADVENTURE AHEAD Warm, friendly Witney woman, 71, GSOH, youthful, attractive, likes dancing, walking, music, theatre, reading and meals out, seeking a tall, active and fun gentleman, for company and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and NICE TO BE WITH Young-minded, retired Chippenham lady, 78, 5'7", cuddly-build, likes crosswords, holidays, home life, seeking a together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128540 or send text to 80360



FRIENDSHIP & ROMANCE Genuine active Oxford male, 28, slim build, 5'7", caring, enjoys the gym, cycling and generally keeping fit, would like to meet a similar female, honest, GSOH and fun for friendship and love Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box numbe

SHARE SOME TIME Adaptable, upbeat and optimistic Oxford man, 32, would like to find a warm, laidback girl, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 134837 or send a text to 80360

WE COULD BE GOOD TOGETHER Down to earth Swindon male, 37, enjoys cycling, walks, travel and lots more, seeks laid back female for good times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100773 TIME TO SHARE Lively Oxford

male, 39, 5'10", med build, enjoys motorbikes, clubs, cinema, meals and more, searching for a loving woman, to share friendship and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117999 or send a text to 80360 EASY TO GET ON WITH Down-to-

earth guy, 40, varied interests, seeking a woman, 35-48, for good times and more. Call 0905
005 2359 and enter box number

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READY TO MEET MY SOULMATE Outgoing, sociable Oxford male, 41, black, GSOH, caring, enjoys living life to the full and would like to share it with a bubbly, attractive and kind female, for a loving relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 127095

**PERFECT HARMONY** Fun-loving easygoing, tactile Witney biker, 41, 6ft, stocky build, shaven head and goatee, seeks fun loving, cheeky lady to share life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 108035 or send a text to 80360

TAKE HANDS Slim, tall Oxfordshire male, 43, N/S, musician and artist, searching for his perfect woman, to make life complete. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box nu

**ENJOY GOOD COMPANY** Honest male, 44, 6'3", stocky build, gsoh, enjoys sports, travel, cosy times in, social drinks, seeks fun loving female, for happier times. Oxford. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box er 101716 or send a text to 80360

SHARE THE MOMENT Friendly, lovely and sincere Oxford gent, 44, 5'10", wants to meet a homely, sensible woman, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 134382 or send a text to 80360

COME CLOSER Active, kind-hearted looking to find an insightful, liberal woman, for fun and maybe a little romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130080 or send a text to 80360

a text to 803500 LIFE IS MADE FOR TWO Happy, active Abingdon man, 46, GSOH, med build, positive, enjoys walking, swimming and cinema, would like to meet a similar lady, 50-65, fit and positive, for friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114348 or send a text to 80360

WE CAN BE HAPPY Fun male. 44, likes meals out, keeping fit, weekends away, 5ft9in, seeking friendship maybe more with someone special. Banbury. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 854670

mainer by Job Miner Briendly Witney male, 48, 6', blue eyes, enjoys sports, music, cosy nights in, going out and having a laugh, would like to meet a female friend, for good company and laughter. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115039 or send a text to 80360

**GET TO THE GOOD TIMES Sepa**rated, laid-back Bicester guy, 50, 5'10", brown hair/blue eyes, decent build, self-employed, looking 136282 or send a text to 80360

005 2359 and enter box number 115894

UNDER THE SKY Flexible, warm and easygoing Faringdon gent, 50, wants to meet an energetic, tactile female, for fun and maybe a little romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136213 or send a text to 80360

ACCEPT EACH OTHER Easygoing
Wantage male, 51, own car, works
full-time, likes most sports, would
like to meet an outgoing female,
for good times leading to more. for good times leading Call 0905 005 2359 a er 135164 or send a text to 80360

TIME FOR A CHANGE Friendly, expressive and vibrant kidlington male, 51, would like to meet a life-loving, interesting lady, to share the future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

ing, divorced Witney male, 52, pubs, meals, nice walks, family life, seeking an interesting wom to get to know better. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box n

ALL TO LOVE Kind and caring Oxfordshire male, 52, brown hair, green eyes, GSOH, searching for a nice, genuine girl, for friendship first, then maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 461278

LET'S DO IT Upbeat, friendly man, 53, good sense of humour, into most things, travelling, good foods, looking for love and romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110840 NOT TO BE MISSED Spontaneous.

NOT 10 BE MISSED SPONTANEOUS, caring, hard-working Oxford guy, 54, likes music, cooking, live bands, good wine and F1, would like to meet a simple woman, to share life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115773 or send a text to 80360

TAKE CHARGE Bright, humorous IARE CHARGE Bright, humorous and optimistic Banbury man, 55, would like a date with a chatty, active woman, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132836 or send a text to 80360

A FUTURE FILLED WITH LAUGHTER Divorced, young at heart male, 56, own house in Oxford, likes cinema, theatre and clubs, seeks caring female for happy times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 107632

HOPING FOR MORE Fit, slim-built

Wallingford male, 57, likes swim-

ming, keeping fit, animals, would

like to meet a nice, loving, caring

lady, to share life with. Call 0905

134615 or send a text to 80360

tive woman, for friendship and romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and

SHARING GOOD TIMES Upbeat Bur-

ford widower, 58, own cars, works full time, likes days in and out,

countryside walks, driving, looking for a similar woman for compan-ionship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117916 or send

PASSION FLOWER Young-looking, Wallingford 59yr old, 5'9'', dark hair, wears glasses, enjoys cinema, bowling, days out and socialising, seeks loving, loyal female, for lasting relationship. Call 0905

101122 or send a text to 80360

male, 59, slim-build, 5'8", likes

enter box number 128560

CONFIDENTLY YOURS Widowed chap, 60, 5'10", own home/ business, Witney based, enjoys

music, country walks, pubs, fishing

gardening, seeks outgoing female, to enjoy life again. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

**CONNECT WITH ME** Sincere Oxford

cinema, swimming, country walks with my dogs, seeking an honest, caring lady, to spend quality time: with. Call 0905 005 2359 and

005 2359 and enter box n

CARING NATURE Articulate vigorous and astute Witney man, 58, looking for a funny, innovative woman, for friendship and

enter box number 111595

a text to 80360

LONG LASTING HAPPINESS Fairly fit Banbury man, 60, 5'11", fair-hair, blue-eyes, works as electrician, looking for a nice lady around the same age, for friendship possibly leading to more Call 1905 805 leading to more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

POSITIVE ATTITUDE Fit Latino male, 61, looking for someone who can share fun, life in general and hopefully love with. Oxford. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 460522

SO GOOD TOGETHER Genuine easygoing, happy Abingdon male, 61, own home/car, enjoys dancing, days out and walking the dog, searching for a genuine lady, with an attractive and happy nature.

Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box

PEADY TO MOVE ON Young, caring Didcot guy, 63, 5'9", enjoys the sea, reading and boating, would like to meet a similar lady for companionship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117043 or mber 117043 or send a text to 80360

MORE IN TIME Self-employed MORE IN TIME Self-employed Witney male, 64, loves cinema, theatre, eating out and more, searching for a serious-minded lady, for a loving and supportive relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 109413

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■ County councillors meet for 11 hours to thrash out budget cuts of £46m

# The big civic cuts debate

scrutinised as councillors came together for meetings spanning 11 hours last Thursday.

Five scrutiny committees met back-toback at County Hall to go over the council's financial plan for the next four

The extra savings were announced after central Government slashed the council's share of business rates by 12 per cent.

They will be made on top of £119m of savings the council committed to in 2011.

The largest chunk of the £46m of extra savings will come from the adult social care budget, a total of £18.5m.

Councillors and officers agreed preventative measures to keep older people out of costly care homes was a good way of saving money.

Liberal Democrat spokesman on adult services, Jenny Hannaby, said: "I think preventative measures is something we should be looking at very hard.

"Falls prevention is one example. I believe we used to have people going around to day centres to talk about preventing falls."

Council social and community services director John Jackson said the council was already using personal budgets to give people more choice when it comes to their care.

He said: "The reality is if we live long enough we will need care. This is an

## By Freddie Whittaker

issue we all have an interest in unless we want an early death."

He said the council was dealing with "significant" pressures, adding that referrals to the council from hospitals had gone up by 26 per cent and the

gone up by 36 per cent in the past year. He said: "The reality is we're an

ageing population. We've seen a significant increase in demand."

He insisted the savings of £18.5m were "efficiencies" and added that an additional £4.3m of external funding was being introduced to the budget.

"Investment in early intervention can save an awful lot of money in the long

The area stewardship fund, a pot of cash divided between councillors for local highways works, is to be cut to save £1.09m.

Council leader Ian Hudspeth said

road maintenance schemes would still be carried out where needed and local people would still get a say. He said: "I found the area stewardship fund brilliant. I like it, but there have been some councillors who haven't been able to spend it in their areas.

"By doing it this way, we are actually re-profiling it so there's much more emphasis on maintenance.

An £80,000 saving in the fire service was also discussed.

The council expects to save £30,000 through reduced callouts for retained firefighters and £50,000 through a pensions loophole.

Lib Dem councillor John Goddard said he was pleased the library budget had emerged unscathed.

Last December, the council announced a plan to staff 21 of its libraries with the help of volunteers.

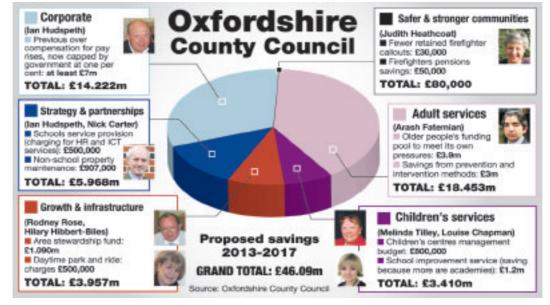
It came after a controversial plan to close some of them, to cut costs as part of the 2011 budget, was scrapped after public uproar.

He said: "I think it's sensible and good

of the administration to keep the library budget as it was and there are no nasty shocks there either.'

In the final meeting of the day, £5.9m of savings under the "strategy and partnerships" heading were discussed.

Savings included the removal of the "change fund", a pot of money set aside for rainy days if further cuts were suddenly néeded.





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# ■ New grant to help African and English schools learn a lesson from each other

# Ugandan link to be re-forged

AN Oxfordshire school has won funding to take part in an initiative bringing together teachers from both sides of the globe.

In 2005, Sibford School, in Sibford Ferris, won funding from the British Council to take part in a twinning programme with the Mbarara Preparatory School in Western Uganda.

But after five years, numerous exchanges between teachers from both schools, and a visit from Sixth Form pupils in Banbury to the Ugandan school, the funding was no longer available.

The two schools remained in touch and now Sibford School has been awarded an annual grant of £1,500 to help further their links, as part of the new Connecting Classrooms initiative - a UK Government and British Council education programme aimed at linking schools around the world

Sibford teacher Edward Rossiter, who was one of three teachers who visited Uganda with sixth form pupils in 2010, said: "It is a fantastic opportunity

# By Fran Bardsley

to share teaching practices.

"It's easy to think we are in the developed world and we have got these things sorted out. But when you see the quality of education and learning, it is eyeopening - given the shortage of resources

"There's an opportunity for staff to learn from Ugandan teachers and it is a similar opportunity for them to learn

While the funding for the three-year project is just for teacher exchanges, the school hopes to hold another pupil exchange, possibly in 2014 or 2015. And for this, the pupils will need to raise the cash themselves, as they did for the visit in 2010.

Pupils have also raised money for two charities working in Western Uganda – ReTrak, which works with homeless children, and Sanyu Babies' Home.

The teachers took learning and teaching resources with them to

Pupils from both schools pecame penpals, a scheme which Sibford hopes to resurrect, and joined together in an art project.

Mbarara Preparatory School is, like Sibford, a fee-paying school, although parents pay a tiny nominal sum compared with their British counterparts.

For the new scheme, the school will also work with the Mbarara Municipal School, a Government-funded school, with more than 3,000 pupils and class sizes of around 90 children.

International Development Secretary Justine Greening said: "I want every child growing up in Britain today to be able to learn about the world around them; about what life is like for children in other countries, and about the potential of trade and economic development to build a freer, fairer, more prosperous

"I am pleased that Sibford School is taking on this excellent opportunity to link with schools in other parts of our world."

The school is one of 5.634 in the UK and overseas taking part.



Sibford School has re-established a link with a school in Uganda to which they donated a weather station identical to their own. The hope to swap data. Pictured is teacher Edward Rossiter with pupils Spencer Farley, Lizzy Hudson and Jess Edwards

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# **InCOURT**

# Verdicts from magistrates courts around the county

■ JONATHON KAYE, 29, of High Meadow, Sibford Gower, admitted breaching a non-molestation order between November 26 and 29. Restraining order made and fined £100, a £20 victims' surcharge, and £85 costs

■ NICHOLAS SUMNERS, 47, of Lodge Terrace, Chipping Norton, admitted breaching a restraining order on December 13 in Chipping Norton. Community order made with a supervision requirement. Also told to do 40 hours of unpaid

community work and pay £40 costs.

PETER KENT, 62, of Warwick Road, Banbury, admitted drink-driving in Powys Grove, Banbury, on November 9 Had 60mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, above the legal limit of 35mg. Fined £165, a £20 victims' surcharge, and £85 costs. Banned from driving for

■ JAKE ORWA, 19, of Red Poll Close, Banbury, admitted £100 criminal damage to a fire door glass panel in Old Parr Close, Banbury, on October 29. Given a 12-month conditional discharge, told to pay £200

compensation and £50 costs. ■ LEWIS KEMP, 22, of Orchard Lane, Upper Heyford, admitted drink-driving

on the A420, Botley, Oxford, on November 3. Had 77mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, above the legal limit of 35mg. Fined £500, a £50 victims' surcharge, and £85 costs. Banned from

driving for 20 months. JOANNA CANTWELL, 50, of Edward Stone Rise, Chipping Norton, admitted theft by an employee after stealing £4,000 from Sainsbury's in Market

Place, Chipping Norton, between December 1, 2011 and April 21. Also admitted stealing £190 from her employer Sainsbury's in Market Place, Chipping Norton, on April 19, Given a three-year conditional discharge and told to pay total compensation of

■ MICHAEL OWEN, 49, of Withycombe Drive, Banbury, convicted of assault by beating in Prescott Avenue, Banbury, on May 2. Given a 24-month conditional discharge, told to pay £100 compensation, £150 costs, and a £15 victims' surcharge

# Local bands are urged to compete

THE 2013 Battle of the Band competition is about to kick-off across the county, but more local musicians are being urged to sign up. Live heats will take place in Banbury pubs from February, with the final taking place at

the Oxford O2 Academy, on May 11.
Prizes include recording studio time, mer-

chandise packages, tours and a chance to play at a UK festival. For more information view majickmusicgroup.com



280 officers to be equipped with stun guns to combat rise in attacks

# More police to use Tasers



He said batons caused more serious and lasting injuries, adding: "There is a false perception

because of the shape of

the Taser is like a gun. It looks more dangerous than it is. Eventually it will be a piece of kit for every officer. I think it's inevitable."

He said officers would have extensive training and would be accountable for every use of the Taser.

The force started using the stun-guns in 2004. There are now 170 available to officers, this will increase to 270.

The use of Tasers short for Thomas A Swift's electric rifle - was authorised 833 times by the force between April 2011 to March 2012 but they were only fired 13 times. They were deployed for 393 incidents involving weapons, 121 threats of self-harm or suicide, and 107 domestic incidents.

The use of Tasers was approved 704 times in 2009/10 but they were only fired 12 times.

Ms Thornton said the Tasers would not be used more than necessary.

She said: "The increase in the number of Tasertrained officers will provide further protection to the communities and officers across Thames Valley Police, as well as providing more officers with the ability to deal with those individuals

who are prepared to use severe levels of violence against others.

"Officers will be specially selected and trained for this role and I am satisfied that the continued use of the Taser device across the force area will only be considered in those cases where it is necessary and proportionate to the behaviour the officers encounter."

When asked whether all officers could be given the guns, she said: "As Chief Constable I have a responsibility to ensure that my officers are equipped to do the difficult job I ask of them.

"It is right that we have increased the availability of Tasers in line with other forces and we will keep our approach under review."

Supt Tony Ismay, head of tactical support, said in the average police force, just under 11.5 per cent of officers had Tasers.

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12 BANBURY CAKE, Thursday, January 17, 2013

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# **InBRIEF**

# Dancing date

■ A MIDDLE Eastern-themed dance event is to be held to raise cash for a primary school and a charity. The Shimmytastic show will be held at Bloxham School on Sunday, March 24, at 2.30pm. Proceeds will go the Oxfordshire Sands stillbirth and neonatal death charity and Friends of Bloxham Primary School. Tickets are available from the primary school, call 0780 345983 or click on shimmytasticshow@ gmail.com

# Fined £50

■ THOMAS Beer, 47, of no fixed address, admitted using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress in Banbury on November 28 Magistrates fined him £50 and ordered he also pay a £15 victims surcharge.

# Thankful mums in the running for OX5 charity

By Katriona Ormiston

A GROUP of mums are running to raise money for the Oxford Children's Hospital, whose staff cared for their

The three parents all have children in the same class at Bishop Loveday Church of England Primary School in White Post Road, Banbury

They will be running the five-mile Blenheim Palace run on March 10, to raise much-needed cash for children's treatment at the Headington hospital.

Sharon Mallinson, who owns a recruitment agency, and nurse, Natalie Flannery, say their daughters have both had their lives changed after operations at the Headington hospital.

And Lucinda Page's baby niece, Scarlott, born three weeks premature in April, is still in and out of hospital being cared for by staff.

Ms Mallinson's six-year-old daughter, Mollie, was partially deaf until she had two

operations at the Oxford Children's Hospital.

Ms Mallinson, 43, said: Her hearing was really muffled but as soon as she had the operation it improved overnight.

"She could hear things like the birds singing, which she never had before.

"It was a struggle for her but we are so grateful she could hear before she started school - so she wasn't hindered too much.

"All the staff were so welcoming and had time for everybody. The amount of pressure they must be under is immense but they don't show it. They just make the children feel comfortable."

Natalie Flannery's five-yearold daughter, Hayĺey, haď sleep apnoea which meant she couldn't breathe properly in her sleep because her tonsils were

She had an operation to remove her tonsils and adenoids, which solved the problem in 2012.

Mrs Flannery, who is a nurse at the Horton Hospital, Banbury, said: "The staff were just fantastic with her and me at

"You are always going to be anxious and worried because your daughter is having an operation but they did what they

"And when she came round and was uncomfortable, there was a magician there to cheer all the children up.

Miss Page's nine-month-old niece, Scarlott, spent nine weeks being treated at the special care

babies unit of Oxford Children's Hospital before being moved to the Horton Hospital. She was in hospital again over Christmas with bronchitis and is still underweight for her age.

Ms Page, 30, said: "My sister, Sarra, said the staff were brilliant. That's the reason I'm running. She said they were really helpful and understanding. Scarlott is still tiny but it could have been a lot worse."

All three women are from Banbury and will be taking part in the event in March.

A spokesman for the Children's Hospital, Sarah Vaccari, said: "Sharon, Natalie and Lucinda have all got different stories to tell about their experiences at the children's hospital, but they are united by a desire to do something positive and help local children in their hour of

"We really hope their stories will inspire others to sign up for the run.'

The OX5 Run already has more than 100 people registered.

To enter the race, call 01865 743444.

Search for 'champions'

NEARLY half of all parishes in Oxfordshire have registered a broadband representative to help boost connectivity.

But Oxfordshire County Council said 188 out of 372 parishes have still not put forward a "champion" to get their community up to speed. It wants to spend more than £13m to improve broadband provision but needs the representatives to spark interest in rural areas. Anyone interested is asked to email bbchampions@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Nine-month-old Scarlott Hope-Hancock, with her aunt Lucinda Page, Natalie Flannery and Sharon Mallinson and children Megan Page Cooper, Hayley Flannery and Mollie Currion



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# Riddle remains as to who is secret knitter



Claire Jarvis, *left*, and Lesley Wildman, who run the Fibreworks knitting shop in Chipping Norton, where a 'yarn bomber' has been attaching small knitted objects to lampposts and railings OX56645

# Town's knitting mystery is just a great yarn...

IT'S the American craze which has taken over Chipping Norton – and many of the townsfolk still don't know who's behind it.

Knitted designs have been appearing across the town, brightening up even the dullest lamppost or railing.

But rather than consider it to be a nuisance, many in Chipping Norton have become proud of their local so-called "yarn bomber".

Yarn bombing – also known as guerrilla knitting – is a street art which involves decorating a public space with patterns made from knitted or crocheted yarn.

The movement began in 2005 in Texas and has since spread around the USA and to London, where there is a yarn bombing community.

Chipping Norton-based artist Liz Teall said: "It's wonderful. Every event is marked out with her decorations and we always look out for them. I don't know who she is but it is lovely that she does this. One or two people do know but they are keeping tightlipped."

For the past few years the yarn bomber has been marking significant dates or events within Chipping Norton's life with

# **By Damian Fantato**

appropriate yarn decorations. This means Armistice Day is marked with woollen poppies littered around the town, festive designs are fixed to the railings around Christmas and bright orange pumpkins are attached to the lampposts at Halloween.

Not much is known about the town's yarn bomber other than she is female and understood to be in her 60s

One person who claims to know the identity of the yarn bomber is Claire Jarvis, who runs the town's wool shop The Fibreworks, but she would not reveal any names.

She said: "I think it is great that she decorates the town in this fashion. We are really lucky to have her.

"The perception of knitting has changed a lot in recent years and it doesn't have the same elderly image that people used to think it had." West Oxfordshire District Council

west Oxfordshire District Council spokesman Carys Davies said: "We understand the knitted yarns are popular and enjoyed by local people and visitors. We've had no requests to clear them up."



The secret knitter's tribute to Remembrance Day

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# Rail safety defended

By Mark Taylor

NETWORK Rail has defended its level crossing safety record in the wake of a fatal incident in Oxfordshire.

Thomas Pizzey, 85, from Banbury, was killed on the Sandy Lane line between Yarnton and Kidlington when a Freightliner train struck a car he was travelling in.

This week British Transport Police were still speaking to witnesses in an attempt to discover how the car came to be on the line at the time of

People in the village have said the half barrier at the crossing was often stuck down, and some drivers had tried to drive around it to get across the line.

Calls have now been made to install a full barrier – to stop drivers risking their lives by ignoring the barriers.

Police confirmed that in November Kidlington officers turned traffic away from the crossing when the barrier was stuck down but Network Rail stated there was no recorded fault.

In December, British Transport Police used a purpose-built camera van to keep a close eye on other crossings where drivers and pedestrians were known to chance beating the warning signals and

# Call for full barriers at level crossing follows death

barriers, and collated video evidence for prosecutions.

Proposals by the police to move the camera van to Sandy Lane have not vet materialised.

Spokesman Emma Wiggins said: "There is no schedule as to where the enforcement vans go. They are seen as a deterrent more than anything, just for us to keep an eye on things rather than target particular areas

Network Rail spokesman Kate Snowden said that since April 2009 there were three recorded incidents of misuse at the Sandy Lane crossing drivers attempting to beat the closing barrier. There were two near misses.

At the nearby Yarnton level crossing the figures were exactly the same.

On Landford Lane, between Bicester Town and Islip, there was a single instance of misuse since 2009, and on the Oddington crossing between Bicester Town and Islip, there was one instance.

At the Tackley level crossing there were five incidents of misuse and four

She said: "As you can see, the

recorded numbers of misuse and near misses are all low.

"Each crossing is individual and we risk-assess them.

"Wherever the railway meets the road, there is a risk. It is our job to reduce that risk as much as possible, and to do this we look at a number of factors: the speed and frequency of trains, the sighting available.

Yarnton Parish Council chairman Michael Gibbard said: "I believe the safety record of the crossing is excellent. It handles something like 4,000 vehicle movements and there are rarely any problems.

"It has been the case that the barrier has stuck down, but rather that than it

stay up. "If Network Rail were to look at changing anything, I think that they should install a full barrier, rather than a half barrier - to stop cars from attempting to zig-zag through."

A full barrier requires CCTV monitoring and operation of the barriers from a signalbox. Network Rail said it had no plans to change the Sandy Lane crossing.



Parish council chairman Michael Gibbard at the level crossing in Sandy Lane, Kidlington

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banburycake.co.uk/leisure BANBURY CAKE, Thursday, January 17, 2013 17

# CakeLeisure

# **Ballet from Russia with love**

et's face it, this is a bleak time of year, but how about sprinkling some graceful winter sparkle on proceedings?

Moscow City Ballet brings two of the most famous ballets of all time to Royal & Derngate, staging The Sleeping Beauty from Monday (January 21) to Wednesday (January 23), and *The Nutcracker* from Thursday (January 24) to Saturday lanuary 26.

Tchaikovsky's inspired ballets are at the very heart of Russian culture, and the Moscow City Ballet and Orchestra are famed for their spirited choreography and outstanding virtuoso performances.

The Sleeping Beauty, the evergreen tale of the love of a handsome prince and beautiful princess based on the story by the Brothers Grimm, is a glamorous jewel in their repertoire.

Set on Christmas Eve, The Nutcracker has become a wintertime staple, climaxing with the enchanting Dance Of The Sugar Plum Fairy with its distinctive and evocative melody line played on the celesta. Artistic director Victor Smirnov-Govolanov's version of the ballet is infused with an invigorating freshness that is sure to delight.

With beautiful costumes and sets, consummate skill, and the magical



ingredient of Russian soul, this world-class company provides the perfect start to the New Year, and the ideal introduction to ballet for children.

■ Moscow City Ballet perform The Sleeping Beauty at Royal & Derngate between Monday, January 21, and Wednesday, January 23, at

7.30pm, with a 2.30pm matinee on Wednesday. The Nutcracker is staged from Thursday, January 24, to Saturday, January 26, with a 2.30pm matinee on Saturday. Tickets are priced from £17.50 to £34 and can be booked by calling the box office on 01604 624811 or online at royalandderngate.co.uk



WONDERLAND: The Nutcracker and The Sleeping Beauty, left

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# Comedy club raises the bar s part of a two-pronged attack on the January Blues,

Chipping Norton Theatre has stepped up to offer a thoroughly cockle-warming comedy night.

The Cotswold Comedy Club enjoys its first outing tonight (Thursday) with a superb line-up of comedians, each bringing something different to the table.

Tickets are just £10 each, meaning the comedians work out at £3.33 each... which is a fairly mind-boggling bargain. And don't expect to find any second-rate acts - this night offers the chance to take in star-billing names.

Headlining is Patrick Monahan, pictured, the Irish/Iranian comic from Middlesbrough whose travels have swept him to the Adelaide Fringe Comedy Festival 2011 and on to Dubai, Doha, Abu Dhabi, Barbados, St Lucia, St Vincent, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Estonia, Ireland, Germany, finishing up at Edinburgh International Festival and the Royal Albert Hall in London!

Patrick knows how to work a room and engage an audience with a strongly skilled blend of ad lib banter and stand up. He has worked his way up the comedy

circuit ladder and is now a regular MC and headlining act at the top London and UK comedy clubs.

James Mullinger comes straight from his fourth solo stand-up tour which sold out every night on its 2011 and 2012 run, including two nights at London's

Roundhouse James Mullinger is one of the most soughtafter comedians on the international circuit. Having stormed the Just For Laughs Festival in Montreal in 2005 and 2006, Mullinger has performed with Jimmy Carr on his DVD 'Stand Up' and also alongside Robin Ince and Rufus Hound on panel

show

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most effortless comedians making a splash in the comedy scene today. She indulges her audience with childish glee and attention; described as "upbeat and delightful" (Chortle) her shows are never the same twice. A finalist at both the Paramount and

Chortle student comedy finals, she's "a true pro" and guaranteed to bring a smile to your face. Resident MC Dave Arnold will compere and between each of the comedians there will be an interval, a chance to recharge your glass and talk about

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Join beautifully appointed Olympia as she cruises through the classic 'Middle-Rhine', the breathtaking Rhine Gorge and the prettiest corners of France, Germany and Switzerland will be revealed, on a journey full of picturebook towns and villages, fairytale castles and vineyards ripening in the sun.

### **Price includes**

- Return coach travel from the local area
- Return Channel crossings
- Nine nights accommodation in a Standard Lower deck cabin on-board ms Olympia (upgrade cabin available at a supplement'
- Full-board breakfast, lunch, dinner, afternoon tea & snacks
- Welcome Cocktail Party

- Captain's Farewell Dinner
- On-board entertainment and English commentary
- Porterage on and off the ship
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Sailing on board ms Olympia Departs 7 & 13 April 2013

Savour the spectacular sight of Holland in springtime bloom from the comfort of our specially chartered MS Olympia.

## **Price includes**

- Return coach travel from the local area
- Return Channel crossings
- Three nights accommodation in a Standard Lower deck cabin onboard ms Olympia (upgrade cabin available at a supplement)
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**Departs 24 July** 

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**Departs 30 August** 10 days NOW from **£1029**.00



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# **Rivers Cruise**

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This marvellous journey on board delightful MS Olympia explores the mighty River Rhine and three of its tributaries, and includes the enchanting Middle Rhine of vineyards, picture-book villages and fairytale castles, the meandering Moselle, cosmopolitan Mannheim on the River Neckar, and the great city of Frankfurt on the River Main.

### **Price includes**

- Return coach travel and Channel crossings
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# **CakeLeisure 2**

# Silver screen musical with a French melody

Musical/Drama/Romance. Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway, Amanda Seyfried, Eddie Redmayne, Samantha Barks, Aaron Tveit, Helena Bonham Carter, Sacha Baron Cohen, Isabelle Allen, Daniel Huttlestone. Director: Tom Hooper.

om Hooper, Oscar-winning director of The King's Speech, director or me ... o dreamed a dream of immortalising Claude-Michel Schonberg and Alain Boublil's powerhouse musical without the conventional safety net of lip-

That audacious gamble - asking the actors to sing live in every take pays off handsomely, teasing out the heartbreaking emotion in an adaptation of a stage show which has become a global phenomenon.

The London production of Les Miserables, which opened in 1985 to lukewarm reviews, is the longestrunning musical in West End

Hooper's terrific film embraces the Schonberg and Boublil songbook with bold directorial flourishes and tour-de-force performances, including a cri de coeur from Anne Hathaway that virtually guarantees her the Oscar

Hugh Jackman also richly deserves a nomination for his fearless portrayal of a convict, which required the Australian actor to shed 30 pounds to convincingly portray his emaciated hero.

The film begins with a thrilling overture in a dockyard where Valjean (Jackman) and his fellow prisoners haul a ship out of the

frothing water under the watchful eye of Inspector Javert (Russell

Valjean is granted parole and leaves behind his tormentor but cannot secure employment because of his shameful past.

Only the kindness of a bishop saves him from starvation.

Eight years later, Valjean has reinvented himself as a revered factory owner in Montreuil-sur-Mer, where one of his workers, Fantine (Hathaway), is cruelly cast out when the foreman learns she has an illegitimate daughter, Cosette (Isabelle Allen).

Determined to raise the money to keep her child under the roof of villainous Thenardier (Sacha Baron Cohen) and his wife (Helena Bonham Carter), Fantine sells her hair and then her body as she sobs I Dreamed A Dream.

Valjean discovers Fantine close to death and agrees to raise Cosette as

So the story moves on a further nine years with revolutionary fervour sloshing through the grimy streets of Paris, inflamed by students Enjolras (Aaron Tveit) and Marius (Eddie Redmayne).

The latter falls under the spell of Cosette (now played by Amanda Seyfried), unaware that Thenardier's daughter, Eponine (Samantha Barks), adores him from afar...

Les Miserables is a towering achievement in front of and behind

With the benefit of live singing, Hooper doesn't have to photograph set pieces from afar, capturing the political turmoil as actors sing their hearts out in lip-quivering close-up.



French students incite revolution in a scene from the film Les Miserables

The cast is superb – Barks breaks hearts with her knockout rendition of On My Own and Redmayne matches her note for soaring note.

Only Crowe is miscast.

His soft, sweet vocals render Javert somewhat impotent next to Jackman's booming delivery.

Bonham Carter and Baron Cohen provide stomach-churning comic

Animal lovers should avert their eyes when the Thenardiers grind meat for their pies during a rumbustious sing-along to Master Of The House.

Magnifique!

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# Music **FRIDAY**

**CakeWhat's on** 

Abingdon Arms, High Street, Beckley: The Original Rabbit Foot Spasm Band in a night of jazz and blues. 8pm. Free admission.

**SATURDAY** New Theatre, George Street, Oxford: Let Me Entertain You. JK performs Robbie Williams tribute. £19-£21. 7.30pm. 0844 871 3020.

The Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton: Mardi Gras Big Band. Germany's vibrant jazz, funk, soul and rock ensemble with a New Orleans feel, led by Doc Wenz. £14, conc £12, 7,45pm. 01608 642350 Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10am-2pm.

SUNDAY Jacqueline du Pre Music **Building, Cowley Place, Oxford:** Family Cushion Concert - Folk Fiddle. Rozzy and Mr Cello introduce the Folk Fiddle to children and their families.Under5s 9.30am and 10.30am, 5 and older 11.30am. £5. 01865 286660.

# Theatre

The Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury:

Until Jan -20, Jack and the Beanstalk. Presented by community-based Cherwell Theatre Company. Get a grip of your giggles, if you can, when you meet our extra larger than life characters: the fun-loving Fairy, the dainty Dame, the whacky, wicked Witch, the hot-headed Hero, the uncommonly courteous Cow and of course, the ginormous Giant. Theatricality, creativity and energy and with all the magic of a traditional pantomime; packed with jokes, slapstick comedy and loveable characters. Someone has to get in the Giant's way, unfortunately, and much to his delight, everybody does! Except the village Fool... Box office: 01295 279002. The Theatre, Spring Street,

### **Chipping Norton:** Jan 17, stand-up comedy-

£8.50. 11.30am.

Cotswold Comedy Club, featuring Patrick Monahan as headliner. plus James Mullinger and Laura Lexx. Tickets £10. 7.45pm. Jan 18, Inspector Norse. presented by comedy duo LipService. A Swedish flat-pack thriller. £13, concession £11. 7.45pm. Jan 19, Hullaba Lulu. Featuring puppetry, live music and songs. Presented by Thingumajig Theatre.

# Box office: 01608 642350. **Events**

Three Hundred Years Under Our Feet: The Gallery, The Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton. Until Jan 27. Josh John's documentation of the aftermath of the demise of the British coal mining industry. Gallery open during performances, films and Wed, Fri and Sat 11am-3pm. 01608 642350.

# CakeSport banburycake.co.uk/sport

Evo-Stik Southern Football League, Premier Division

# Martin leads the way to victory



Wayne Blossom

**BANBURY United edged further** away from the Premier Division relegation zone with a superb victory at Bideford on Saturday.

Goals from Marvin Martin and Wavne Blossom made it a comfortable day, with Bideford's goal coming in stoppage time.

The hosts should have taken an early lead as Sean Downing

**Blossom and Ryan Plowright** went close for Banbury, before they went ahead in the 33rd

A long throw from Albi Skendi was helped on at the near post to Martin, who struck Bideford

(Andrew 90)

**Banbury Utd** 

(Martin 33, Blossom 55)

the ball low into the corner of

Martin had an excellent chance to make it 2-0, but could not beat Bideford keeper Tim Sandercombe.

The Puritans doubled their lead in the 55th minute.

Ryan Plowright put Adeyinka Talabi clear, and although Sandercombe got there first, the ball rebounded to Blossom,

who lofted it into the unguarded net from 25 yards.

With new new signing - ex-West Ham United academy player Kenzer Lee - combining well with George Allen at the centre of defence, Banbury kept Bideford at bay.

The hosts eventually netted in the fifth minute of injury time through Matt Andrew.

Banbury Utd: Kidd, Cray, Ashton, Lee, Allen, Martin, Plowright (Lait 67), Agyeman-Prempeh, Skendi, Blossom, Talabi (Simpson 87). Subs not used: Dumbleton, Plowright, Shariff.

Attendance: 191.

# **Prodrive Minis** rev up for Ukraine rally customers

ENGINEERS at Prodrive in Banbury are building two Mini rally cars for the Ukraine-based Mentos Acania Racing Team.

The team will run two Mini John Cooper Works S2000 cars in the WRC 2 and this year's Ukrainian national championship.

Both cars are being built to the latest specification and will leave Prodrive's workshops in Banbury at the end of this month.

Drivers Valery Gorban and Oleksii Kikireshko will debut their cars at Rally Sweden next month and will compete in the championship with full engineering and technical support from Prodrive.

The team is not new to the World Rally Championship, having competed in last year's Production Car World Rally Championship, where Gorban finished third in the series and secured victory on the Acropolis.

Graham Prew, senior sales manager at Prodrive, said: The team considered all the latest world rally cars, but chose the Mini after driving the car and visiting the

"This is the first full customer programme for the Mini S2000 within the WRC. It has already proved its competitiveness on the international stage, winning the Tour de Corse in 2012 in the IRC, and with further engine and chassis development already under way, the Mentos cars will have the best chance to run at the front of the WRC 2 field.'

# **BanburyCake**



# **Coronation** Festival at **Buckingham Palace**

Departs 12 July 2013

The Gardens at Buckingham Palace will be the venue for a one-off event over just four days in July 2013 for holders of Royal Warrants to celebrate the 60th anniversary of The Queen's Coronation. There will be over 200 Royal Warrant Holders exhibiting at the Festival which takes place in the Gardens of Buckingham Palace

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- Three nights' bed and continental breakfast accommodation in a three-star hotel within easy reach of Keukenhof Gardens
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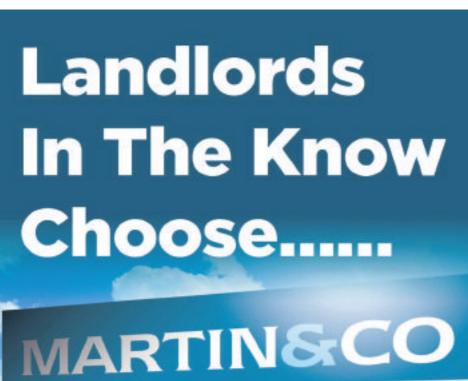
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### Furniture & Furnishing

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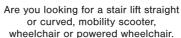
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04 5	4 FORD KA 1.2, Blue, Elec Windows, Airbag, Ideal First Car	£11 £2299
0 80	3 FIAT PUNTO 1.25 ACTIVE SPORT, Silver, 3 Door, CD, Airbag, PAS, Ideal First Car	£1999

03	03	FIAT PUNTO 1.25 ACTIVE SPORT, Silver, 3 Door, CD, Airbag, PAS, Ideal First Car	£9	£1999
02	52	ROVER 75 1.8T AUTO, Black, Full Cream Leather, A/C, CD, Alloys	£9	£1999
		MPV'S & 4X4'S		
06	06	HONDA CR-V 2.2 CDTI SPORT, Dark Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, 1 Owner, From New!	£40	£8499
80	80	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA CDTI DESIGN, Dark Blue, A/C, CD, Alloys, 7 Seats, Airbags	£33	£6999
05	55	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 2.2 DESIGN AUTO, New Shape, Silver, Glass Roof A/C, CD, Alloys	£23	£4999
04	54	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 DESIGN AUTOMATIC, Black, 7 Seat, A/C, CD, Alloys, Elec Windows	£19	£3999
03	03	SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 1.6 3 DOOR, Blue / Silver, A/C, CD, Low Range Box	£19	£3999
97	Р	NISSAN ELGARAND DIESEL AUTO 8 SEAT, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Folding Rear Seats	£17	£3699
01	Υ	MITSUBISHI PININ 1.8 GDI ELEGENCE, Red/silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Ready For The Winter	£17	£3699
05	55	NISSAN ALMERA TINO S AUTOMATIC, Silver, 1/2 Leather, A/C, CD, Alloys, Airbags	£16	£3499
01	Υ	DAIHATSU TERIOS EL 1.3 AUTO, Black, Elec Windows, CD, Airbags, A/C	£15	£3299
03	03	KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 XSE, 5 Door, Silver, A/C, CD, Low Range, Gear Box, Airbags, Elec Windows	£15	£3299
04	54	CITROEN PICASSO 2.0 AUTOMATIC, Gold, A/C, CD, Elec Windows, AirBags, Amazing Value	£7	£1999
				1000



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12/12 Reg Ford Ka Zetec (Start Stop)



07/07 Ford F 2.0 CC-3 2dr





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12/12 Ford Focus 2.0 TDCi 163 Titanium X 5Dr Red	£25,715	£16,991	£8,724
12/12 Ford Focus 1.0 125 Ecoboost Zetec 5Dr White	£18,670	£12,991	£5,679
12/62 Ford Focus 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5Dr Silver	£23,895	£18,991	£4,904
12/12 Ford Fiesta 1.6 Zetec S 3Dr Blue	£16,135	£11,991	£4,144
12/12 Ford Fiesta 1.4 TDCi [70] Titanium 3Dr Silver	£15,885	£11,991	£3,894
12/62 Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi 115 Titanium 5Dr Silver	£20,745	£16,991	£3,754
12/12 Ford Ka 1.2 Zetec [Start Stop] 3Dr White	£11,125	£7,991	£3,134
11/61 Ford S-Max 2.0 TDCi 140 Titanium Powershift 5Dr Blue/Grey	£21,991	£19,991	£2,000
12/62 Ford Ka 1.2 Zetec [Start Stop] 3Dr Red	£10,820	£8,991	£1,829
11/61 Ford Grand C-Max 1.6 Titanium 5Dr Blue	£15,991	£14,491	£1,500
09/59 Ford Kuga 2.0 TDCi Zetec 2Wd 5Dr Silver	£14,991	£13,991	£1,000
10/10 Renault Megane Scenic 1.5 dCi 110 Dynamique Tomtom 5Dr Green	£10,681	£9,991	£690
10/10 Renault Megane Scenic 1.5 Grand dCi Dynamique 5Dr Silver	£10,681	£9,991	£690
09/09 Ford C-Max 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5Dr Blue	£10,991	£10,491	£500
10/10 Ford Mondeo 2.2 TDCi Titanium X 5Dr Blue	£14,491	£13,991	£500
<b>09/09 Fiat 500 1.2 Pop 3Dr</b> White	£6,991	£6,491	£500
10/10 Ford Fusion 1.4 Zetec [Climate] 5Dr Black	£8,491	£7,991	£500

12/62 Ford Ka 1.2 Zetec [Start Stop] 3Dr Red	1 £8,991	£500
08/08 Ford Focus CC 2.0 CC-3 2Dr Blue	1 £8,491	£500
10/60 Ford Fiesta 1.2 Zetec [82] 5Dr Silver	1 £8,991	£500
12/12 Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi 163 Zetec 5Dr Silver£16,79	1 £16,291	£500
12/62 Ford Fiesta 1.6 Zetec S 3Dr Black	1 £13,491	£500
07/57 Ford Focus C-Max 1.6 Zetec 5dr Blue£699	1 £6491	£500
10/10 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2i 16v Energy 3dr Black£649	1 £5991	£500
08/08 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Blue 3dr Blue£599	1 £5491	£500
11/11 Ford KA 1.2 Edge 3dr Red£749	1 £6991	£500
10/06 Ford KA Zetec 1.3 TDCi White£749	1 £6991	£500
07/07 Ford Focus ST 2.5 ST-3 3dr Black£949	1 £8991	£500
12/12 Ford Focus 1.6 125 Zetec 5dr Silver£1379	1 £13291	£500
09/59 Ford Focus Zetec 1.6 5dr Blue£799	1 £7491	£500
11/11 Ford Focus 1.6 125 Titanium£1299	1 £12491	£500
09/59 Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr Black£799	1 £7491	£500
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From list ships

# **OPEN DAY THIS WEEKEND Saturday 19th January Sunday 20th January**

Open Days also on the last weekend of every month. Open to the public

# Come and try our facilities, watch some classesand even participate for FREE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	09:00 – 10:00		09:30 – 10:30		09:00 – 10:00	09:30 – 10:30
	Legs Bums & Tums		Aerobics		Boxercise	Body Sculpt
10:00 – 11:00	10:00 – 11:00	10:00 – 11:00	10:30 – 11:30			10:30 – 11:30
Fitball	Balance	Sculpt & Tone	Legs Bums & Tums			Yoga
		11:00 – 12:00		11:00 – 12:00		
		Pilates		Full Body Workout		
18:00 – 19:00	18:00 – 18:45	18:00 – 19:00	18:30 – 19:30	18:00 – 19:00		
Sculpt & Tone	Bootcamp	Combat	Zumba	Pre Weekend Blast		
19:00 – 20:00	18:45 – 19:30	19:00 – 20:00	19:30 – 20:30			
Aerobics	TRX	Yoga	TRX			
20:00 – 20:30	19:30 – 20:30	20:00 – 21:00	20:30 – 21:00			
Power stretch	Dance Fit	Sculpt & Tone	Washboard Abs			

# **Banbury Group Timetable**

Cardio Theatre • Resistance machines • Free weights area • Sauna facilities Abs room • Treatment room • Changing facilities • Studio • FREE Parking



Places are limited so phone today on 01295 255737

St Leonard's Old School Middleton Road, Banbury Oxon OX16 4RE

énergie

banbury@energie-club.co.uk www.energiefitnessclubs.com/banbury



centre of Banbury

4 BANBURY CAKE, Thursday, January 17, 2013

# énergie fitness clubs

# 19th & Weekens

# We can't wait to welcome you to energie in Banbury

énergie Banbury caters for a broad membership base and we are committed to offering our members the highest levels of service and great facilities. Our highly skilled and qualified team are here to assist you, whether it is weight loss, toning, improving strength, stamina, flexibility or sport specific performance, we will put you at ease from the beginning and help you achieve your goals in a relaxed environment.

Come down and let us tell you about all we have to offer. You will love our new equiptment and our 6 week course that helps you meet your fitness goal - with no joining fee and no contract and we guarantee results or we will give you your money back!

Also available is a broad studio timetable.

We have so much more to offer than many other gyms in the area - but you won't know what until you come visit!

# See you soon!















# Memberships from just £15

Cardio Theatre • Resistance machines • Free weights area • Sauna facilities Abs room • Treatment room • Changing facilities • Studio • FREE Parking



Places are limited so phone today on 01295 255737

St Leonard's Old School Middleton Road, Banbury Oxon OX16 4RE

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